explored. However, in the absence of any positive viable proposal, BIFR recommended for winding up of the company and forwarded its recommendation to Allahabad High Court where the winding up proceedings of the company are pending. The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, provides for payment of compensation to the workers affected by winding up of a company.

Stoppage of Ahmedabad-Bombay Janta Express at Karjan Railway Station

4188 SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for the stoppage of Ahmedabad-Bombay Janta Express at Karjan railway station (Gujarat); and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found operationally feasible.

Private Producers in Doordarshan

4189. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan has recently relaxed norms about the role of private producers in the making of new programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the rationale behind this relaxation;

(c) the impact of the changes on operational and financial position of Doordarshan;

(d) the details of the other proposals under consideration for other programmes on Doordarshan network;

(e) the new guidelines for dropping of anchor persons hosting shows on other private channels besides Doordarshan from the national network; and

(f) the difference between news programmes and current affairs programmes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (b). Do not arise.

(d) Proposals from outside producers are considered under various categories depending upon Doordarshan's programme requirements and quality and contents of the proposed programmes.

(e) Persons anchoring Current Affairs programmes telecast on Doordarshan channels are not supposed to anchor any other programme on any channel other than a Doordarshan Channel.

(f) A new programme is similar to a news bulletin in which events and developments are reported as news items, whereas a current affairs programme presents the background and analysis of a current development in a field of activity.

Electrification of Railway Routes

4190. SHRI MURLIDHAR JENA :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned the electrification of railway route from Kharagpur to Vizag via Khurda;

(b) if so, whether the first phase from Kharagpur to Bhubaneswar (320 kms) is proposed to be completed during 1996-97;

(c) if so, the progress as on date; and

(d) the expected date of the completion of the electrification of the entire route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The section Kharagpur to Vizag (Vishakhapatnam) is proposed to be electrified in two phases as under :

Phase I : Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar section including Paradeep-Talcher branch line.

Phase II : Bhubaneswar to Vishakhapatnam.

(b) to (d) Electrification in first phase from Kharagpur to Bhubaneswar is planned for completion upto March 2002 and Bhubaneswar to Vishakhapatnam upto March 2002.

Casual Staff in Delhi Doordarshan

4191. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Assistants are working on casual basis for over 10 years in Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the category wise details thereof and the reasons for not regularising their services so far;

(c) the steps taken or propose to be taken by the Government to regularise these Assistants; and

(d) the number of persons absorbed on regular basis during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The category wise details of such Casuals are enclosed as Statement.

(c) A scheme for regularisation of Casuals was framed in the year 1992 which was subsequently modified in the year 1994. The Casuals who are eligible as per the scheme are being regularised as and when the vacancies become available.

(d) 140 persons have so far been regularised in the categories of Assistants.

STATEMENT

Details of Casuals working in Doordarshan for over 10 years

	Category	Total No. of Casuals	Eligible as per scheme	Ineligible	Regularised so far
1.	Production Assistant	20	19	01	17
2.	Floor Assistant	74	71	03	49
3.	Lighting Assistant	13	12	01	11
4.	General Assistant	29	22	7	11

Contract Labour

4192. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has submitted a proposal to the Government for allowing contract labour in certain non-core service areas, and suggesting introduction of two tier wage structure for contract labour and calling for a change in the provision for employment of contract labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested following changes to be made in the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 :

(i) Change Definition of contract labour to permit its use in non-core areas.

(ii) Replace explanation to Section 10(2) by clear guidelines permitting contract labour; and

(iii) Introducing a two tier wage structure for contract labour (i.e. permitting payment of a lower wage to a contract workers).

(c) All of the amendments to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, as proposed, are not considered necessary.

[Translation]

Pay Scale of Doordarshan/AIR Programme Assistants

4193. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3319 on August 29, 1996 regarding pay Scales of Doordarshan/AIR's Programme Assistants and state :

(a) whether a decision has since been taken in the matter;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The issue is linked with the Fifth Central Pay Commission's Report, which is awaited.

Inadequate Facilities to Passengers at Alleppey Railway Station

4194. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the passengers due to the inadequate facilities at Alleppey Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No specific instance has come to the notice of the Government. Amenities such as high level platforms, platform shelters, waiting hall, seating arrangements, drinking water supply, refreshment stalls and toilets, commensurate with the volume of traffic handled exist at the station.

(b) Does not arise.